

AMERICAN INDIAN - ALASKAN NATIVES AND TOBACCO IN WASHINGTON

WHAT NATIONAL DATA ARE SAYING...

- According to most recent national data in 2004, about 29% of American Indian/ Alaskan Natives are current smokers – higher than the national average.
- Compared with whites, American Indians and Alaska Natives smoke fewer cigarettes each day.
- Smoking is responsible for 87% of the lung cancer deaths in the United States. Overall, lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths among American Indian/ Alaskan Natives.
- To build its image and credibility in the community, the tobacco industry targets American Indians and Alaska Natives by funding cultural events such as powwows and rodeos.

WHAT WASHINGTON DATA ARE SAYING ABOUT ADULTS

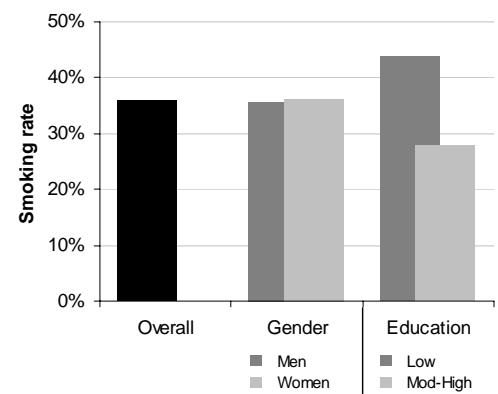
Smoking and quitting data in Washington say...

- Overall smoking rate is about 33%; higher than the state rate of 18%
- High smoking rates are driven by high rates among both men and women
- American Indian/Alaskan Native smokers are equally likely to be occasional smokers compared to the rest of the state
- About 50% of smokers have tried to quit in the past year
- About 60% of tobacco users would like to quit

Compared* to the rest of Washington, American Indian-Alaskan Native smokers are...

- More likely to be advised to quit by a health care provider – although not significantly different
- Equally as likely to be offered or referred to help by their health care provider
- Less likely to know about the Quitline – although not significantly different
- Equally likely to have/know about healthcare benefits that cover cessation

**American Indian/Alaskan Native
Smoking Rates (BRFSS 03-05)**



Secondhand smoke data in Washington say...

- At work, exposure to secondhand smoke is about 10%; this is higher than the overall state rate of about 8% – although not significantly different
- At home, exposure to secondhand smoke is about 19%; this is higher than the overall state rate of about 13%.

Compared* to the rest of Washington, American Indian- Alaskan Natives are...

- More likely to agree that secondhand smoke is very harmful
- More likely to agree that there should be laws protecting non-smokers from secondhand smoke
- More likely to believe that ALL children should be protected from secondhand smoke
- More likely to believe there should be outdoor secondhand smoke laws that protect children

*Taking into account differences in education and age – NOTE: Differences reflected as “not significantly different” mean no statistical difference was detected.

WHAT WASHINGTON DATA ARE SAYING ABOUT YOUTH

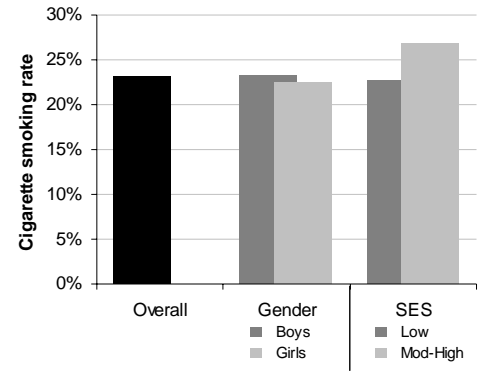
Smoking and susceptibility data among 10th graders say...

- Overall cigarette smoking rate for 10th graders is about 23%
- Smoking rates are not different between boys and girls
- Smoking % are susceptible to tobacco use – meaning they have not made a firm commitment not to smoke

Compared to the rest of WA, American Indian – Alaskan Native 10th graders are...

- Twice as likely to smoke cigarettes
- Just as likely to smoke cigars, bidis, cloves, tobacco in a pipe, and use smokeless tobacco
- More likely to be susceptible to tobacco use
- Twice as likely to live with someone who smokes
- Twice as likely to smoke 10 or more cigarettes per day (among current smokers)

10th Grade American Indian - Alaskan Native Smoking Rates (HYS 04)



Attitudes about smoking from data among 10th graders say...

- About 59% think smoking a few cigarettes a day is very harmful
- About 70% think smoking a pack or more of cigarettes a day is very risky
- About 49% think smoking is very wrong for young people
- About 23% think it's very hard to get cigarettes
- About 61% have had discussions with parents about the dangers of tobacco
- About 69% received information about the dangers of tobacco in school in the past year

Secondhand smoke data among 10th graders say...

- Over 58% of non-smokers have been exposed to secondhand smoke in a room or a car in the past week
- About 53% think that secondhand smoke is very harmful

Compared to the rest of WA, American Indian – Alaskan Native 10th graders are...

- Just as likely to believe light smoking and heavy smoking are very harmful
- Less likely to think smoking is very wrong for young people
- Just as likely to think cigarettes are very hard to get
- Just as likely to have talked with their parents about the dangers tobacco use
- Just as likely to receive information in classes about the dangers of tobacco
- Just as likely to be exposed to secondhand smoke in a room or a car
- Less likely to believe secondhand smoke is very harmful

CONCLUSIONS

- Tobacco prevention and control continues to be an important public health intervention among American Indian – Alaskan Native youth.
- Continued attention must be given to specific subgroups within this diverse community.

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*Adult Data: 2003-05 behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System
** Youth Data: 2004 Healthy Youth Survey